



The
COMEDY
of
LIFE





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THE COMEDY OF LIFE

"The world is a comedy to those that think."—HORACE WALPOLE.



NEW YORK.
LIFE PUBLISHING COMPANY,
1907

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New York City.

Uniform with this volume
THE SOCIAL COMEDY.
Price, \$2.00.

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



THE OVERTURE.

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



AT THE AMATEUR THEATRICALS.

She: Do you think my husband will object to your making love to me?

“Oh, no. He knows I wouldn’t if I didn’t have to.”

THE COMEDY OF LIFE

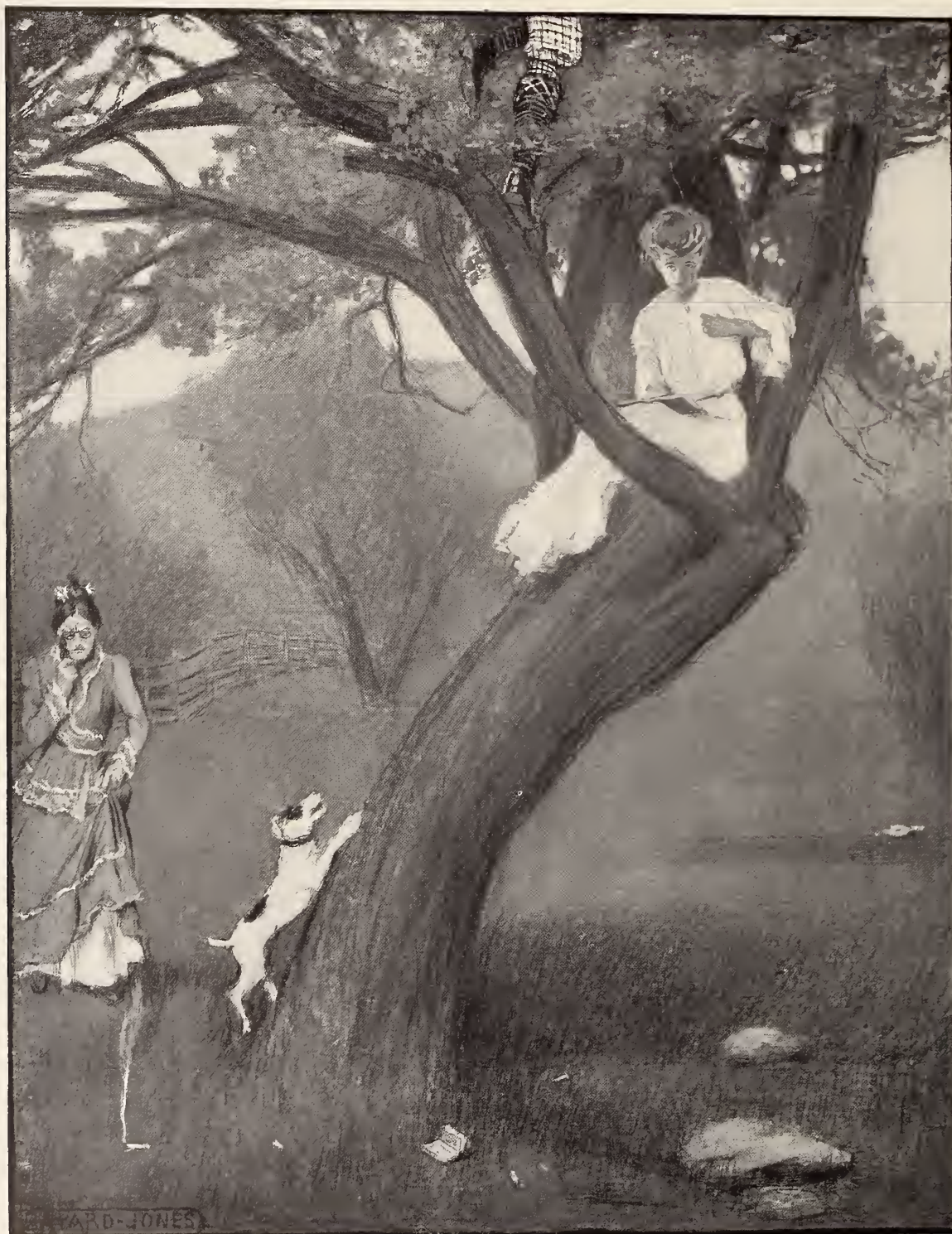


IN A NEW YORK RESTAURANT.

"Who are those people, Isadore?"

"Americans. They seem to be pushing in everywhere."

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



WHERE THERE'S SMOKE, THERE'S FIRE.

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



"You might ask your mistress if she is at home."

"It's no use, sir. She saw you coming."

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



TO EXCHANGE.

An artistic, impractical, ardent husband for one with an income, however small.

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



IDENTIFIED.

Medium: I see a man. He is making love to some woman and is smoking and drinking.

"Yes, yes, that's my husband."

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



"I hear, sir, that Freddy is working as a clerk in your brokerage office."

"Yes. I want him to learn enough about the business to let it alone after I die."

THE COMEDY OF LIFE

SUSANNE.

SUMMER'S gone, the ruddy rover,
With the sunshine of his smiles—
Bands of bees above the clover,
Wren-song down the woodland aisles ;
But the autumn light discloses
He has left a touch of tan
And the glamour of his roses
On the cheeks of fair Susanne.

What the drifting of her dreams are,
Who can tell by what bright shores?—
Limpid lakes where rainbow gleams are
Shattered by the dip of oars ;
Blissful hours of moonlight boating
Where a lyric river ran—
Thoughts of these perchance go floating
Through the brain of fair Susanne.

Or mayhap her flocking fancies
(Gossamer were not so light!)
Bring back climbs or drives or dances
In the mountains—Green or White,
Golf—if that game seem not gruesome—
Haply in her visions scan ;
O to play a truant "twosome"
By the side of fair Susanne !

What if all this talk were folly?
That were not a great surprise !
Sooth, no mood of melancholy
Looks from out the maiden's eyes !
Maybe (scoff not Punchinello!)
'Tis the future and a man
(What a lucky, lucky fellow!)
Fill the mind of fair Susanne !

Clinton Scottard.



SUSANNE.

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



GETTING READY FOR SPRING.

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HIS MASTER'S VOICE.

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



"Three moves are as bad as a fire."

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



"How long have you been in love with him?"

"Ever since I rejected him."

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



Reporter to Prospective Suicide: Say, old chap, if you want to get into the evening paper you'd better hurry up.

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"Mandy, what makes your teeth always so nice and white?"
"Oh, nothing but Sapolio and your tooth brush."

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HER ANSWER.

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



Custom House Officer: Anything to declare, sir?

"Nothing but myself. But I declared that on the way over."

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He: I hope the fact that I've led a gay life and been out nights a great deal won't make any difference.
"Indeed it does. If I accepted you, you might reform."

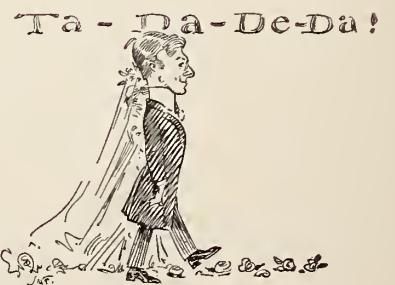
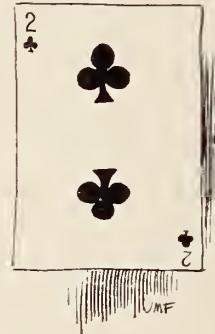
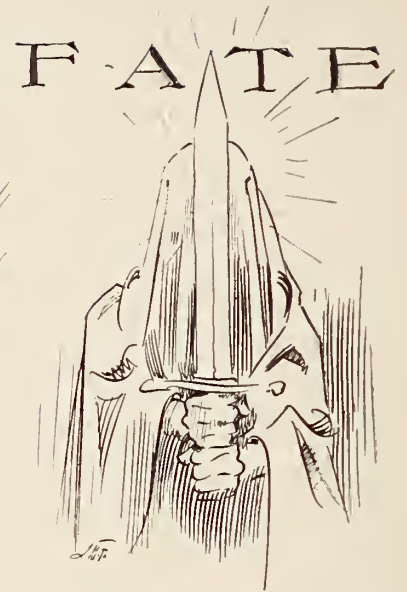
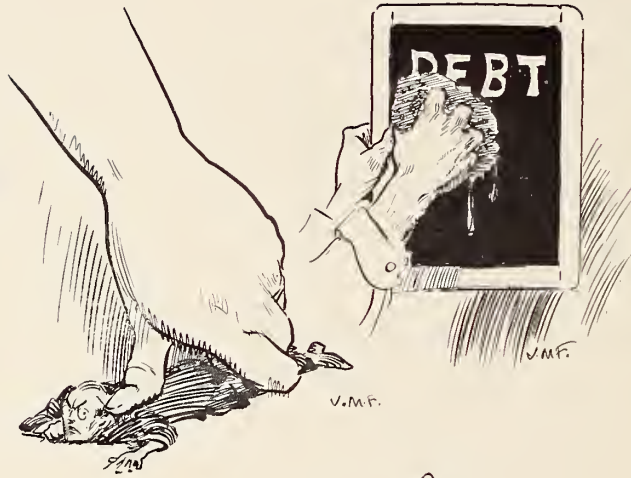
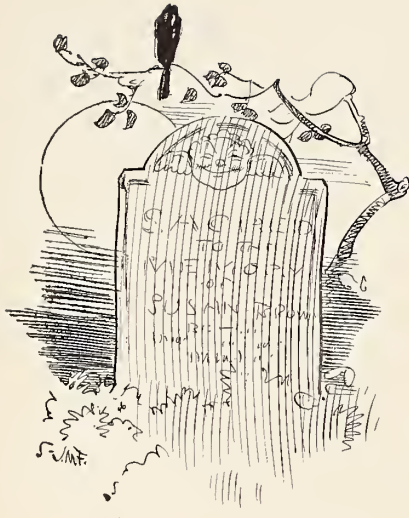
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THAT DEFERRED VACATION.

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FROM AN ARTIST'S SKETCH BOOK.

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Miss Nevergo: Oh, I must tell you about my trip to California.

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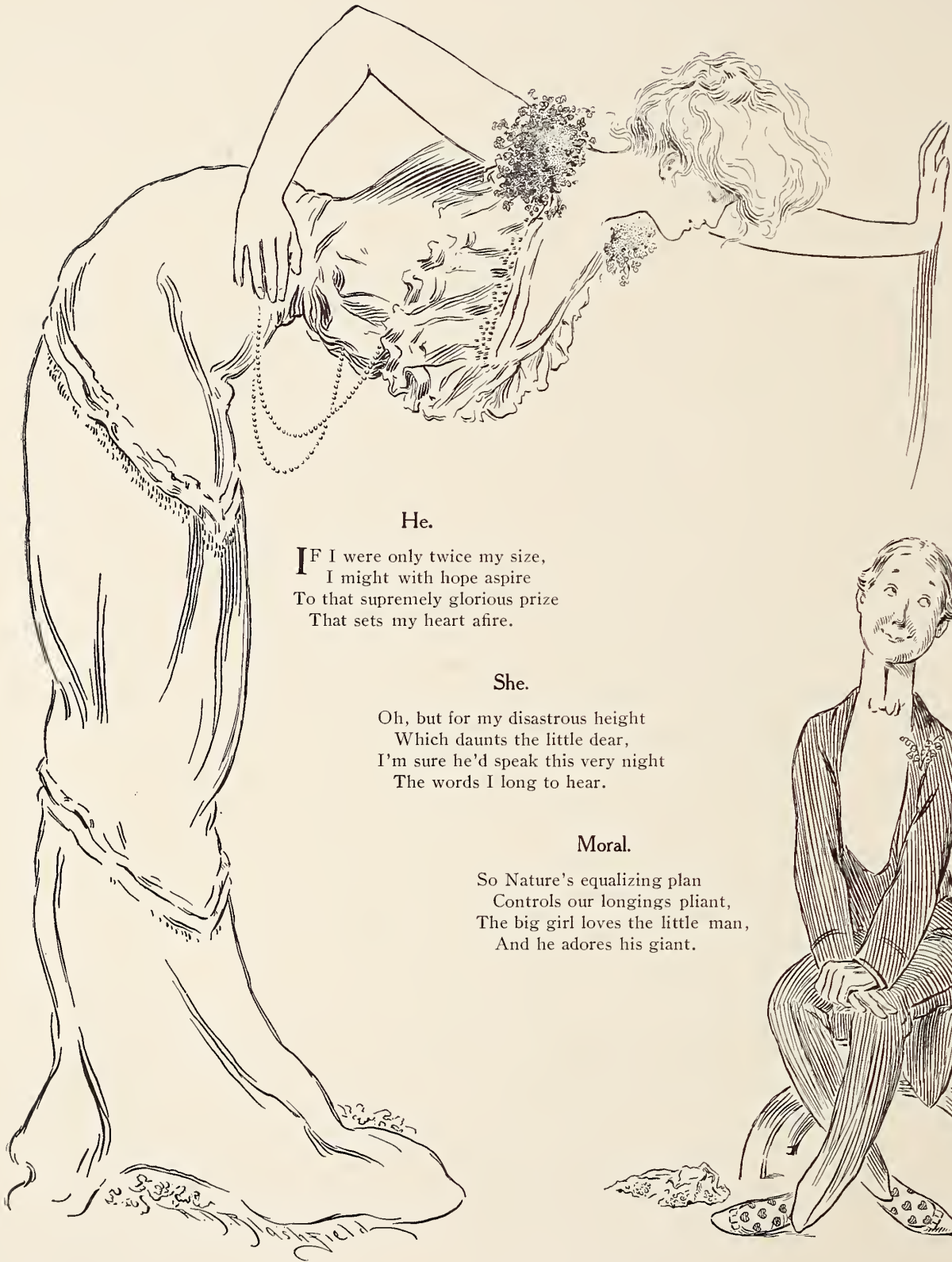
Otto Scorch (just after being struck): The railroad's disregard of human life is simply astounding. I'm sure the engineer heard my horn and knew that I was trying to break a record.

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



"AS IN A LOOKING-GLASS."

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



He.

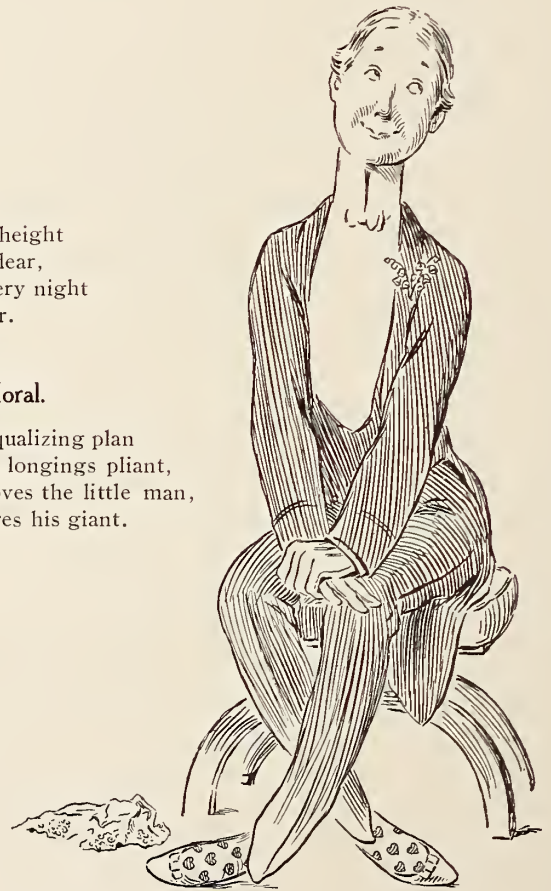
IF I were only twice my size,
I might with hope aspire
To that supremely glorious prize
That sets my heart afire.

She.

Oh, but for my disastrous height
Which daunts the little dear,
I'm sure he'd speak this very night
The words I long to hear.

Moral.

So Nature's equalizing plan
Controls our longings pliant,
The big girl loves the little man,
And he adores his giant.



THE COMEDY OF LIFE



"Wilt thou take this title with its debts and manifold ailments to be thy wedded husband?"
"I will."
"Wilt thou take this American heiress to be thy wedded wife?"
"Well, rather!"

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



The servant girl question is to be solved at last—the Indian is being educated for domestic service.

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



"Did she get the man she wanted?"

"Oh, no! She is most happily married."

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THOSE TICKETS.

Mr. New Jersey takes his wife and her mother to the opera.

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THE TATTLE-TALE.

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



AT NIAGARA.

Warning to tourists: Keep close to the guide and avoid unnecessary danger.

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



"Did I see you kissing my daughter, sir?"

"I really don't know, sir. I was too much occupied at the time to notice."

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



A WRITE-UP SPOILED.

"Burglars ! And my new diamond pin hasn't come home ; and sister borrowed the best silver yesterday."

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



Young Wife: Oh, I just love to bluff!

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



EDWARD JONES

“Those insulting bachelor congratulations.”

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



"Don't you think, Mabel, it was foolish of us to have such an expensive wedding?"

"Yes, dear; but we'll both know better next time."

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



THE GENERAL OFFICE OF STORK AND CO.

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



"WOMAN."

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



"I promised to give George my answer in a week."

"I promised to give him mine in three days."

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



"Why did you have the sun-dial moved, Amy?"

"I wanted it where the moonlight would shine on it, so we could tell the time at night."

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A CANDIDATE.

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



Head of Institute: I'm afraid we can't cure your husband of drinking, madame.

She: Your note said it could be done in six months.

"True; but I hadn't seen you then."

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



"Is your engagement a secret?"
"Oh, no. The girl knows it."

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



MARRIED LIFE IN UTAH.

"One at a time, dears."

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



"Anything to declare, miss?"

"Yes. One Duke slightly damaged."

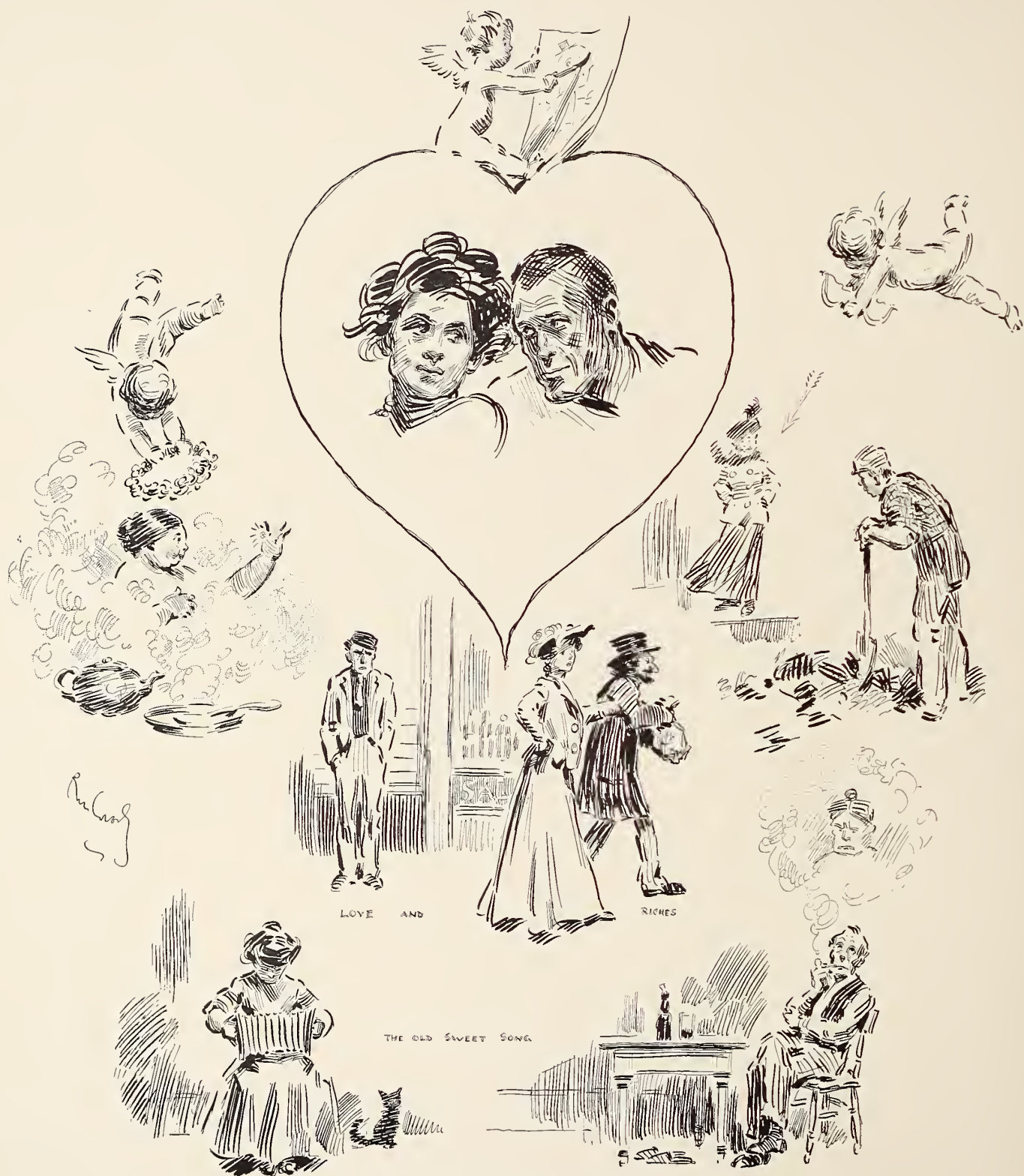
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"Young man, can you sit up and make love to a girl every night and do justice to your work during the day?"

"No, sir. And I've decided to give up my job, as I can't keep it and do justice to the girl."

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



VARIATIONS OF THE OLD, SWEET SONG.

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



"Why do you refuse to look at my sketches?"

"Well, Jack saw them, you know, and he says there isn't a decent one in the whole batch."

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



THE ORIGINAL COUNTY FAIR.

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"She looks modern."

"Modern!"

"Her gown is cut so low."

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GOLF AT FROGVILLE.

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THE FIRST VALENTINE.

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



A CHICAGO WIDOW'S LATE HUSBAND AS HE APPEARED TO THE MEDIUM.

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



Mistress: You ruined that terrapin last night, Ellen. I can't have things wasted so.
"Sure, mum, 'twasn't wasted. We ate it in the kitchen."

THE COMEDY OF LIFE

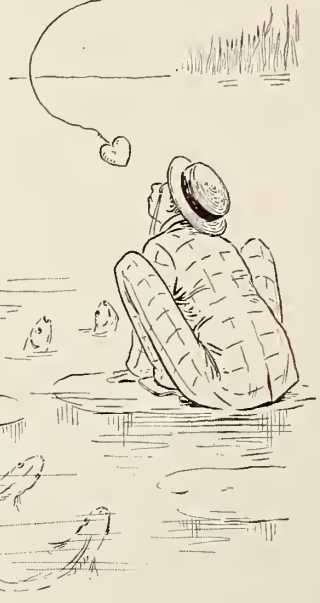


TO SUMMER.

THOU sweet enchantress of the joyous year ;
Thou bringest bliss to all who worship ease ;
Thy smile is sunshine and thy breath, the breeze,
Wine to my lips and music to mine ear ?
Thou art the child of Time I most revere,
Since thou dost let me do just as I please—
Loaf, flirt and smoke, and on the links and leas
Wander at will with whom my heart holds dear.

Ices and juleps thou dost bring to me,
Cool and refreshing ; and the crimson rose
Thou givest to the garden wherein She,
Thy younger sister, often with me goes :
Love's token this—let it thine emblem be—
Thy fragrant lyric in life's leafy prose.

F. D. S.



THE GENTLE SPORT.

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



Mrs. Pilcilton (to her coachman): James, I trust that you are an attendant at religious exercises?

"Oh, yes, mem. I goes as often as I has the chance, mem."

"And I trust that you feel it your duty to lead such a life here as will assure you a place among the good in the next world?"

"Oh, yes, mem, I tries to. Thank you kindly, mem."

"I am glad of it James. I have been so much pleased with your services that it is a real comfort to me to know that if we are permitted to have coachmen in Heaven I may continue to employ you there."

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



First Mormon: How did that chorus girl you married turn out?

Second Mormon: Splendid. I'm now trying to make arrangements with the rest of the chorus.

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



"Model? No, I am not drawing any girls now. I'm only painting fruit."

"Well! Ain't I a peach?"

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



“ Why did you let him in the house if you couldn't trust him ? ”

“ But, good Heavens, man ! I didn't know he was going to run off with my daughter—I thought it was my wife.”

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



Young Husband: I knew you would suit my mother.

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



VALENTINES.
Old and new.

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



He: Which do you prefer, dear, a house or a church wedding?
"It makes little difference, so long as it's binding."

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



BEFORE THE CEREMONY.

Friend of the bride-to-be: And I suppose that is your prayer-book?
"Oh no! that would be out of date. These are my bridge cards that I am to carry."

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



MARY SIGSBEE KER, 1904

AT THE WEDDING.

"Bobby, why don't you stand up?"

"Are we to be married, too?"

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



HIS AUDIENCE.

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



He: How much do you think I ought to give the minister, dear?

She: Whatever it is worth.

"But I can't tell that until afterwards."

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



Wifey: Mother has changed! I don't quite like the way she looks, do you?

"No, my dear, I never did!"

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



She: Look, dear! Papa's check will pay for our wedding trip.

The Duke: But what are we going to do afterwards?

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



THE LEADING LADY.

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



"Robert, what did you put in the cocktails?"

New Butler: Everything we had, ma'am.

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



Grandfather (enthusiastically): Say, Willie, don't you want to go through a toy shop with me this afternoon and see all the pretty things?

Willie (indifferently): I'm willing to, pop, if you will get any pleasure out of it.

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"THO' LOST TO SIGHT, TO MEMORY DEAR."

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



"FAINT HEART NE'ER WON FAIR LADY."

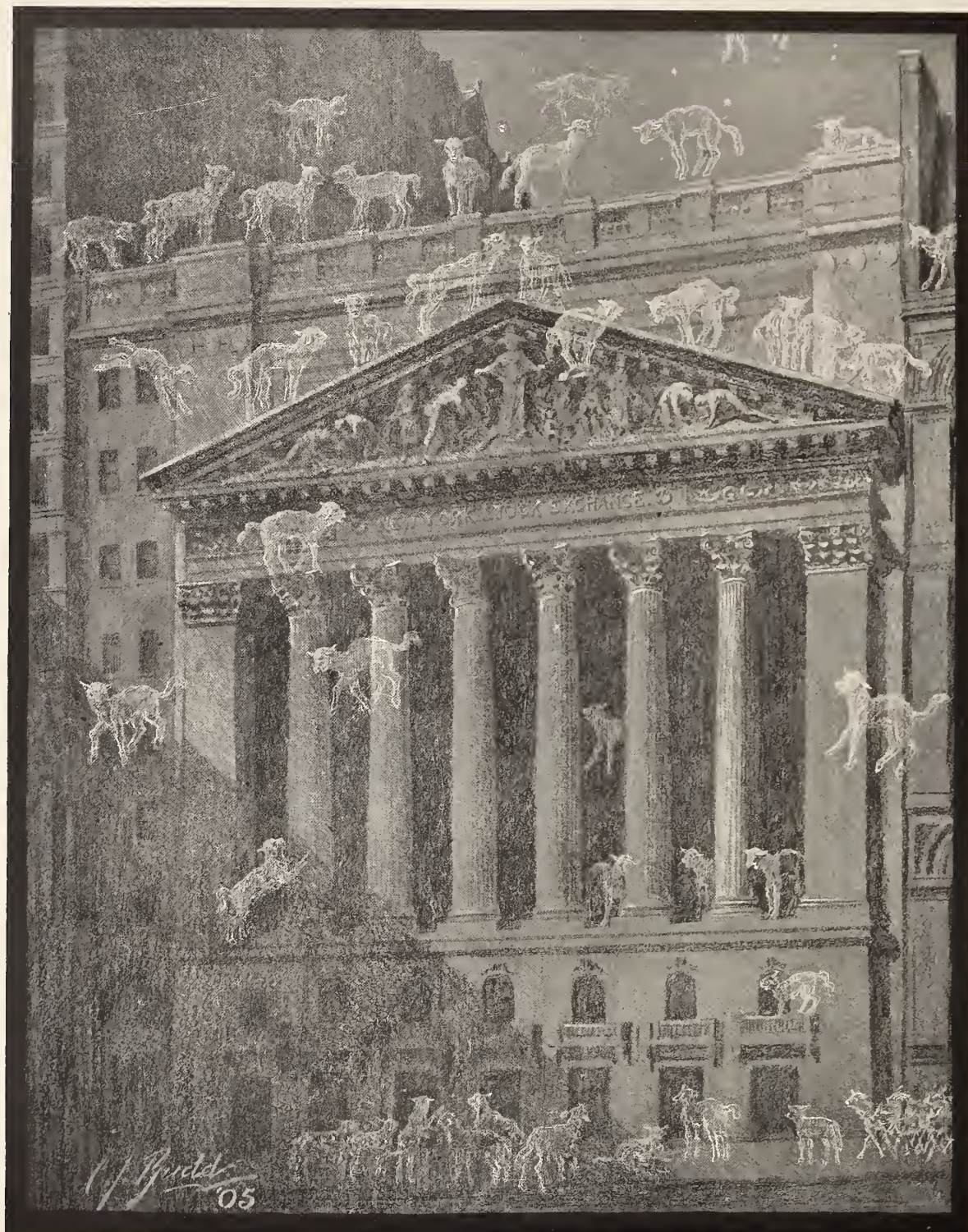
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Parson: Do you take this woman for better or for worse?

Bridegroom: Well, I can't exactly say. Her people think it's for better, but mine think it's for worse.

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WALL STREET GHOSTS.

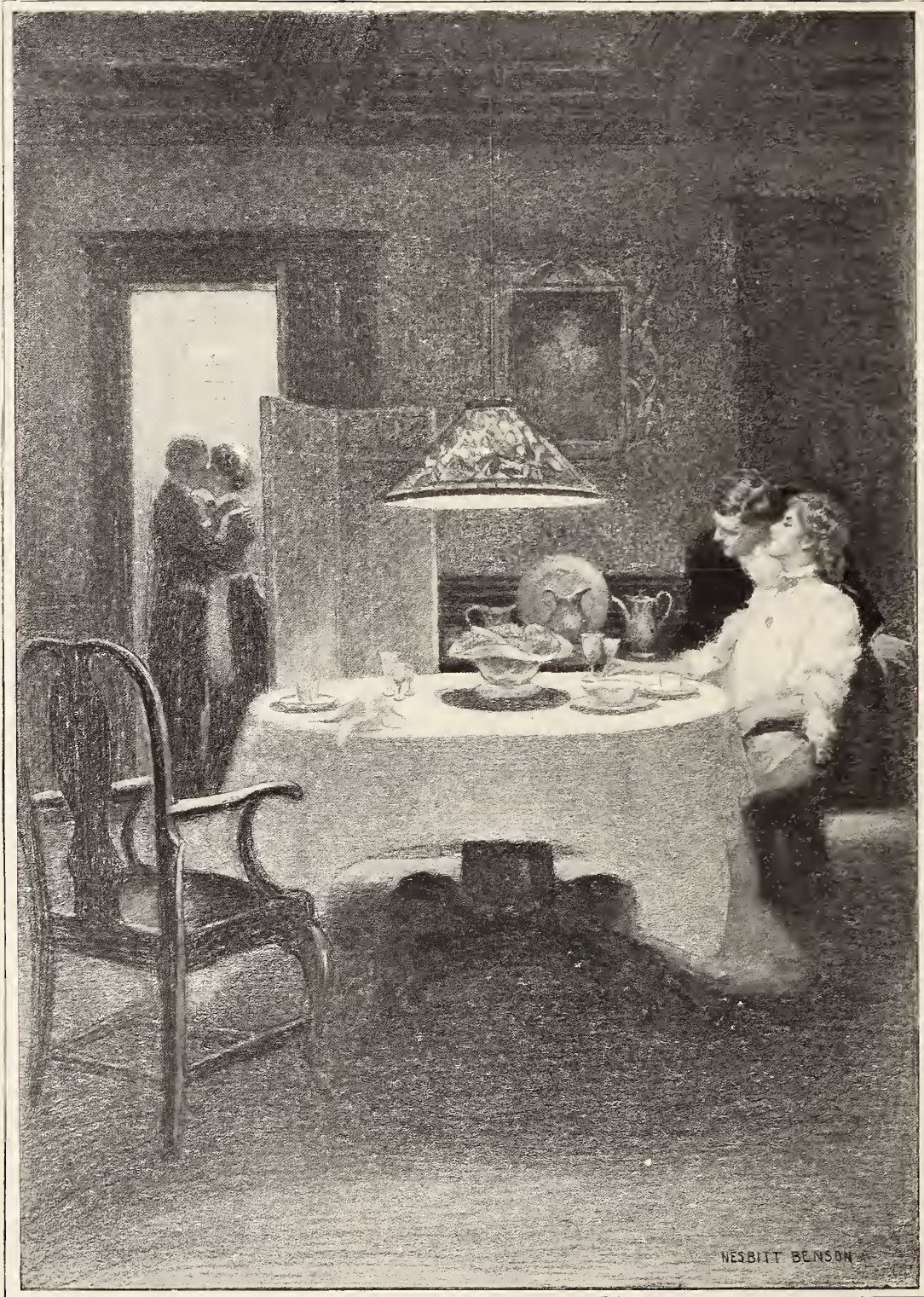
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CHERRIES ARE RIPE.

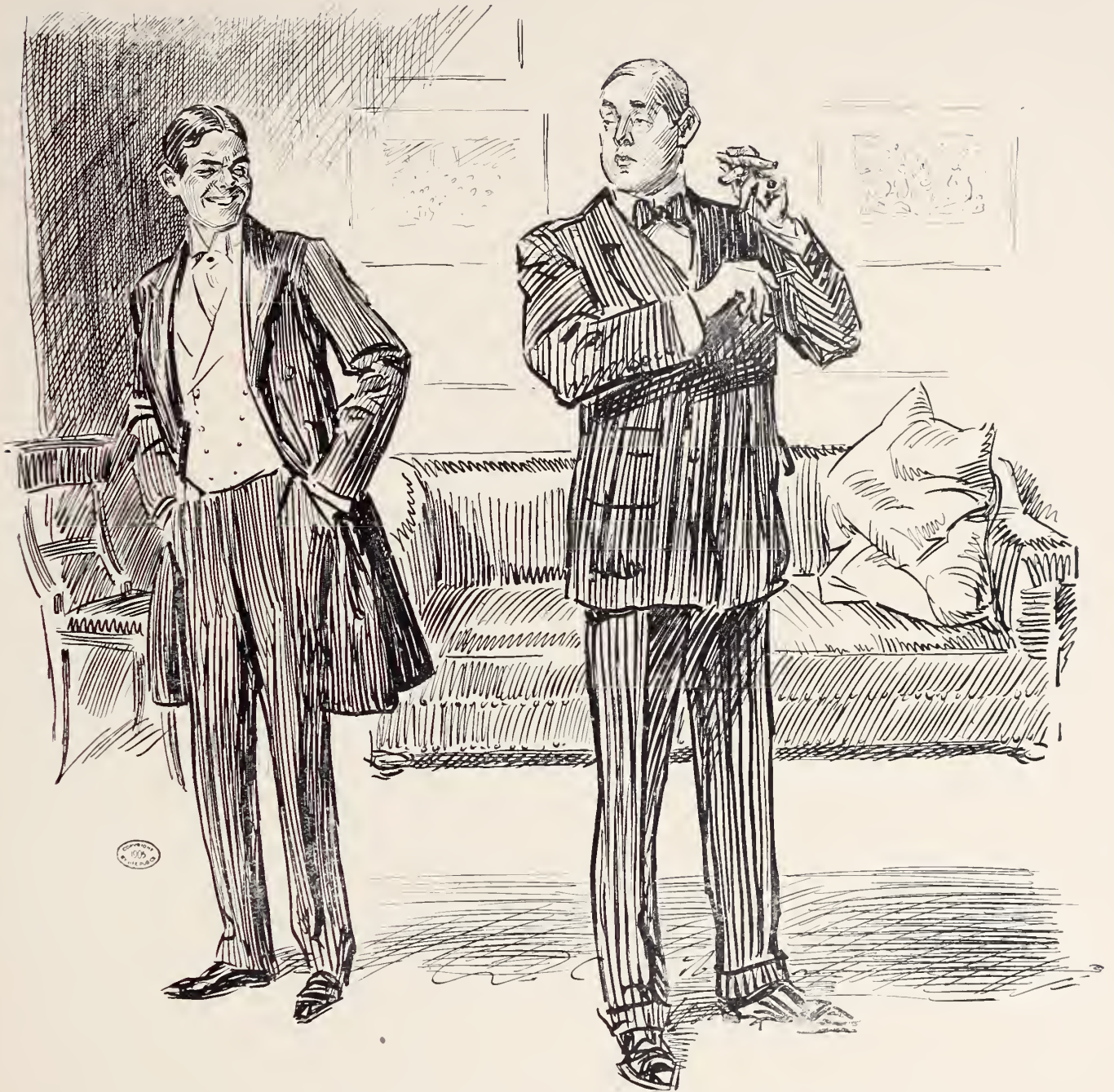
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THE ECHO.

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



"By Jove, I've been awfully short of money this week. Actually had to smoke the governor's cigars."

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



THE CHAPERON SPEAKS.

VERY limp and damp my gown and the sun is beating down
And my hat's askew above my blistered face,
But at least it's consolation and a bit of compensation
To know my lambs are gathered in one place.
For Dolly, Amaryllis and the most imprudent Phyllis
Are seldom found together in one spot,
And the only relaxation in a chaperon's vocation
Is to get them altogether on a yacht.

Hence I sit here glad, though paling, for I *never* cared for sailing
And I always had a horror of the sea,
But at least the satisfaction of a little forced inaction
Is a thing to be accepted thankfully.
And Dolly, Amaryllis and the most imprudent Phyllis
For once they bear my glance and murmur not,
And content is o'er me stealing (though I'm sure my nose is peeling)
For I know they can't escape me on a yacht.

Theodosia Garrison.

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



The Clergyman: Are you satisfied, madam, to take this man as your husband?

The Bride-to-be: Well, not quite; but he's the best I could get.

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



A HEAVENLY HONEYMOON.

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



A FALSE ALARM.

Spirit of Knickerbocker: Odsbodkins! I thought 'twas the horn of Gabriel!

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APRIL FIRST.

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



RUFFING.



SATISFIED.



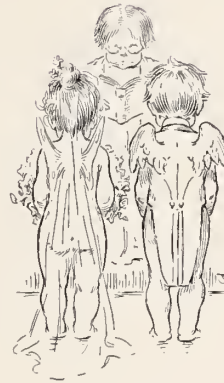
HONORS.



FORCING.



ADRIFT.



DOUBLING.



DUMMY.



FAILING ON HEARTS.



GRAND SLAM.



ESTABLISHED SUIT.



I PASS IT TO MY PARTNER.



MAY I PLAY?



A SHORT SUIT.

BRIDGE.

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



"I'm sorry, my dear, I can't find out what's wrong. I'm afraid you'll have to walk."

"Why, George, I wouldn't ask the dog to walk on roads like these; you'll have to push the thing, that's all."

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



THE CONFESSOR.

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



"HOME, SWEET HOME."
The shade of John Paul Jones awaits his body.

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



AT BREAK OF DAY.

“The early village cock hath twice done salutation to the morn.”—*Richard III.*

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



THE WONDERS OF AMERICA.
Niagara Falls in 1950.

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



SUGGESTION.

Wife: The ice doesn't look very strong, does it?

"Perhaps you'd better try it. You know you weigh more than I do."

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DURING THE FEBRUARY RUSH.

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THE BLIND LEADING THE BLIND.

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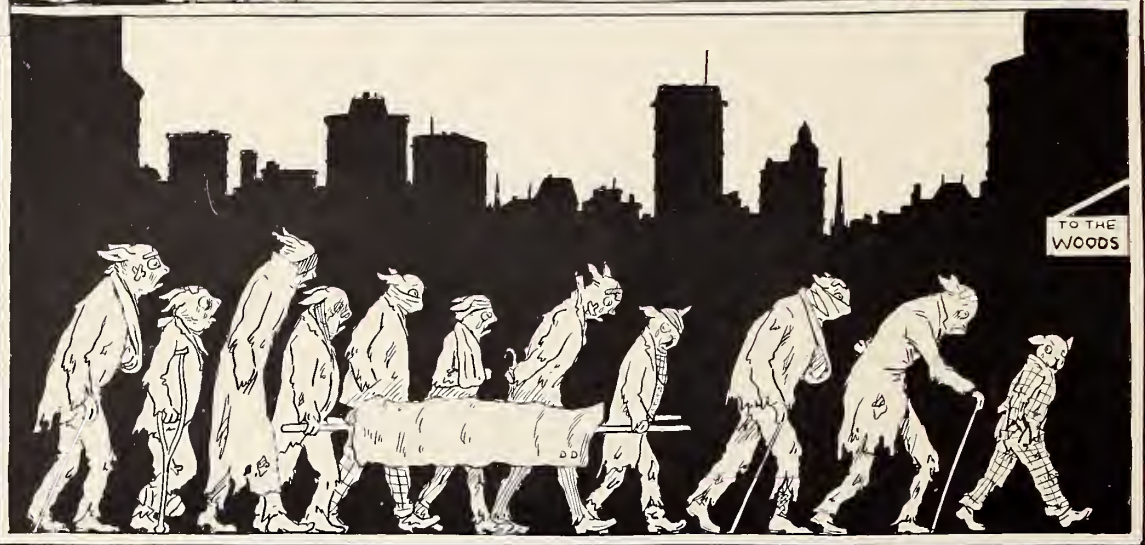


Sing a song of Wall Street,
A pocket full of dough,
Two-and-ten wee lambkins
Standing in a row



When the Market closed,
The lambs began to bleat,
Was not that an easy bunch,
To try to do the Street?

A.B. WALKER



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CHRISTMAS MORNING.

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WHEN HIS LOVE GREW COLD.

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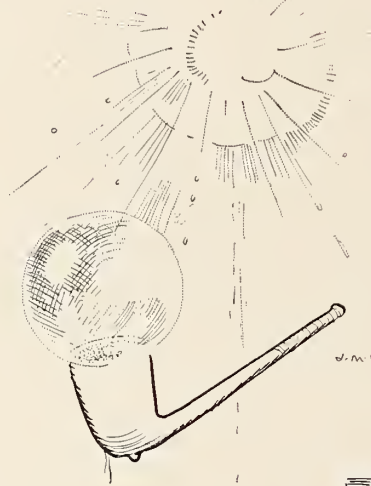
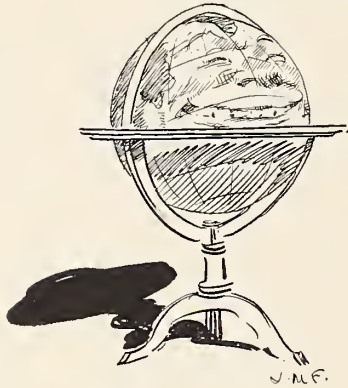


"Promise me, Jack, that you will not go to the dogs just because I have refused you."

"Oh, pshaw, of course not."

"You mean thing!"

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



FROM AN ARTIST'S SKETCH BOOK.

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



The Owner: You can swim, can't you?

The Guest: N-no.

"Then why the deuce didn't you tell me? I always capsize when I go out in this boat."

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



THEN AND NOW.

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



THE COMEDIENNE.

THE COMEDY OF LIFE

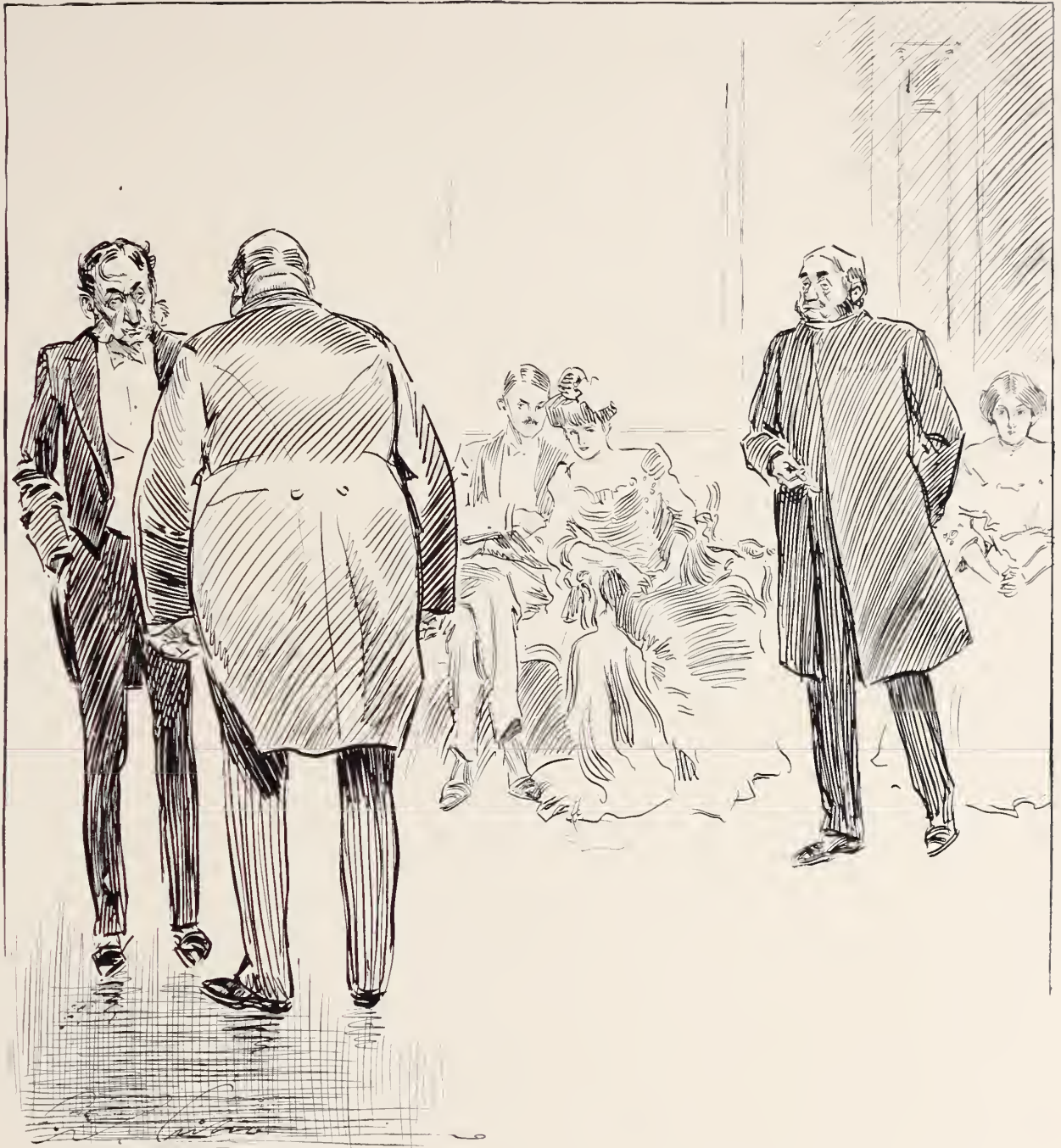


He: I would come over but I am afraid of your dog.

She: Oh, he only bites.

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INFALLIBLE.

"Those two men talking together over there are worth a good many millions between them."

"Which is the richer?"

"I don't know positively—but watch the bishop, who's going to speak to them."

"Why?"

"See which one he shakes hands with first."

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



ASH-WEDNESDAY.

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



THE HAND OF FATE.

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



Dr. Probe: It might be wise for you to call in a specialist.

Witherly: Then for your sake, doctor, you'd better send in your bill first.

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AN EASTER HYMN.

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A MAP OF THE WORLD.
(As seen by him.)

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THE ELOPERS.

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"Young man, do you realize that your college career has cost me ten thousand dollars?"

"Well, governor, it was worth it."

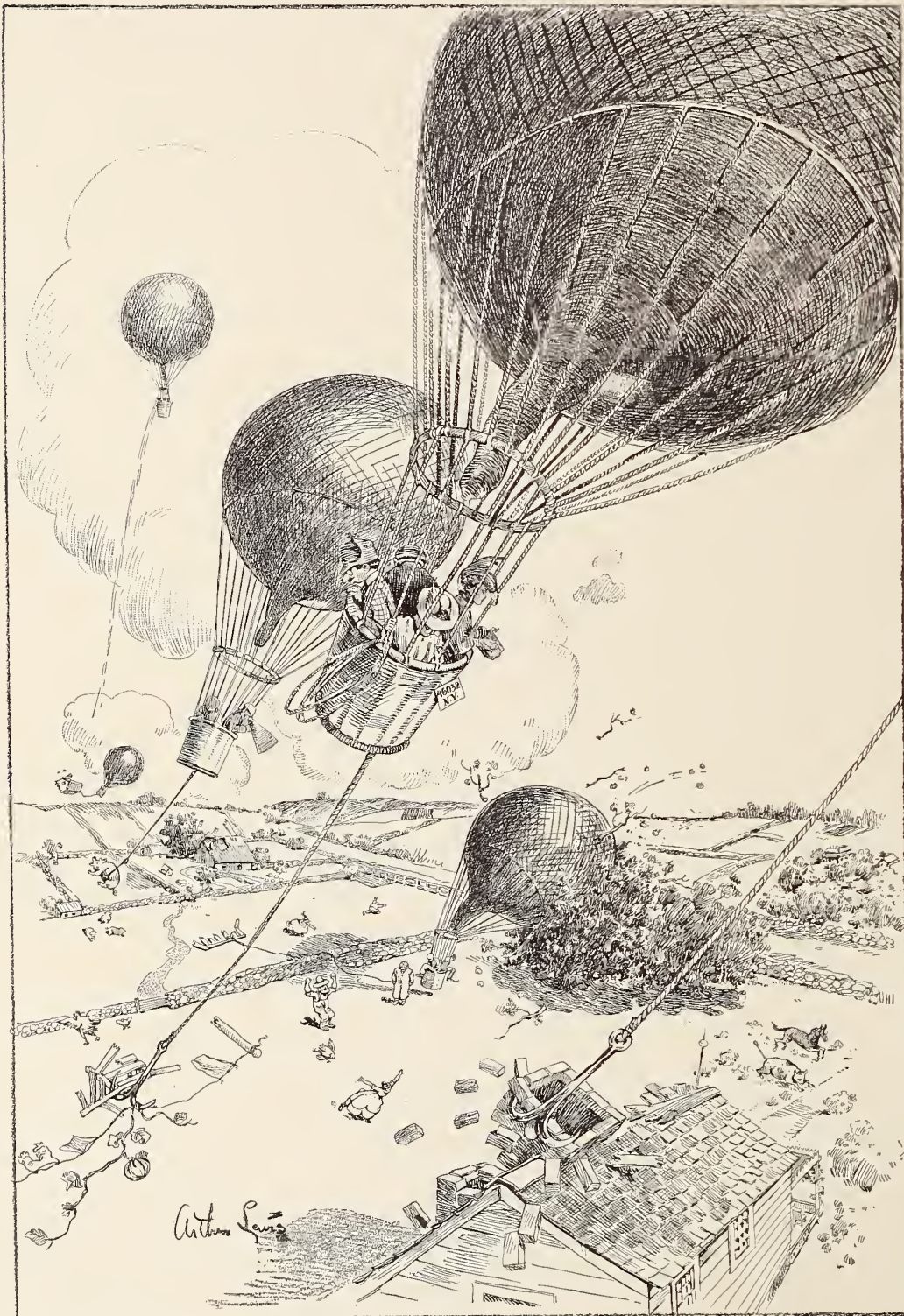
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STRANGE.

He: I shall be just miserable when I have to go away and leave you.
"Oh! Jack, if I were sure of that, I'd feel so happy."

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



THE NEW PERIL.
A quiet landing of THE UP-IN-THE-AIR CLUB.

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



MEASUREMENT.

"Miss Lovelace—Alicia—will you not consent to be mistress of my estates? I cannot tell you how much I love you."

"Oh! Reginald—er—perhaps you can give me a rough estimate—in acres."

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



He: That play actually made me forget myself.
“And yet they say the drama is not a moral force.”

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



A SLAVE OF FASHION.

"Ten minutes late already."

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



AUTUMN GOES TO HER WINTER QUARTERS.

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



He: Did you love me when you first saw me?
"Oh, no! I had to get used to you first."

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



CURRENT LITERATURE.

"I said my daughter had been indulgently brought up, and was used to luxury, and I could not consent to her becoming the wife of a literary man. And he said, damme, that his last book had sold a million copies and brought him in over *three hundred thousand dollars!* What's a man to do in a case like that? He's got more books making, he says. I shall just have to let the foolish girl throw herself away on him, if she wants to."

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



SUMMER IS OVER.

THE COMEDY OF LIFE



